

Application No. 09/778,687

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Response dated 9 July 2003

Response to final Office action mailed 11 April 2003

Amendments to the Claims

The Advisory Action mailed on 2 June 2003 indicated that the amendment submitted in the first response to the aforementioned final Office action was not entered. Therefore, Claim 4 remains pending in the following form. Please amend Claim 22 as indicated below to meet the requirements of the statement of Allowable Subject Matter in the aforementioned final Office action. Please cancel Claims 19 through 21 and 23 through 25. After this cancellation, Claims 4 and 22 remain pending.

4. (Previously Amended) An active external change aid for assisting in the application or removal of articles worn externally on the body of a wearer, the active external change aid comprising at least one effect generating element being capable of moving at least a portion of the article from a first point to a second point during application or removal of the article, the effect generating element being capable of emitting energy, wherein the at least one effect generating element is selected from the group consisting of a magnet, an air jet, and a thermal cell.
22. (Currently Amended) ~~The active external change aid of Claim 19~~ An active external change aid for assisting in the application or removal of articles worn externally on the body of a wearer, the active external change aid comprising at least one effect generating element, wherein the effect generating element performs a transformation which modifies at least a portion of the article from a first condition to at least one second condition, wherein the effect generating element produces a thermal effect, magnetic field or electric current.